

Runaway Edith's Coals of Fire On Papa Gould's Head

How the Daughter Who Was So Severely Punished for Her Own Elopement Leads the Way to Forgiving the Father's Surprising Marriage That Robs Her and Her Brothers and Sisters of Nearly Half Their Millions



The former Edith Gould and her husband, Carroll Wainwright, sailing for Europe to congratulate Papa Gould and wish his charming actress bride all sorts of happiness



The new Mrs. George Jay Gould—a few years ago an obscure musical comedy actress and now the wife of America's greatest multi-millionaire

"WHAT will the children say and do about it?" This was the question everybody was asking as soon as the first shock of surprise at the news of George J. Gould's marriage to a beautiful former actress five months after the death of his first wife was over.

By children were meant not the former Miss Sinclair's three little ones, who now have gained the right to call Mr. Gould papa all they please, but the children, seven in number, of the wife who dropped dead on the golf course at Lakewood, N. J., last November.

If the Sinclair kiddies were old enough to realize how much they are gaining by their mother's marriage, they hardly could fail to be delighted. By getting Mr. Gould for a father they at once are lifted into the enviable ranks of rich and fashionable society children. From now on every luxury will be theirs, the best of education and proud social position, and when Mr. Gould dies they undoubtedly will come into a generous share of his millions.

But with the children of the first Mrs. Gould, as the society gossips immediately began whispering, there easily might be sore disappointment, even anger and unforgiving bitterness, over their father's precipitate second romance.

In the first place it was felt that the sorrowing children of such a devoted mother would think their father had hardly shown the dead woman proper respect by marrying again so soon. The gap between five months and the conventional year of mourning society requires of a widower is a wide one to be forgiven, particularly when the woman who is gone had been a man's wife nearly forty years.

Then there was the embarrassing fact that the new wife was not a figure in fashionable society, but a former musical comedy actress, whose life of easy luxury since her sudden retirement from the stage eight years ago had been a good deal of a mystery.

At first thought it may seem strange that the children of the first Mrs. Gould should have any serious objections to having a former actress for a step-mother when it was from the stage that Mr. Gould had taken their own mother.

But it must be remembered that the place in the theatrical profession held by the former Edith Kingdon, as the first Mrs. Gould was known, was immeasurably higher, more dignified than any ever held by Guinevere Sinclair. The latter had never risen above minor roles in rather flashy musical plays where good looks counted for more than art.

Edith Kingdon, on the other hand, had been one of the idols of the stage, admired as much for her outstanding talent as for her queenly beauty. Then,

On the right—Mrs. Carroll Wainwright, the generously forgiving daughter, in her bathing suit. Below—Her sister, Lady Decies, who follows her example in forgiving their dad's marriage, and one of the former Guinevere Sinclair's three children who will now share in all the numerous Gould millions

too, her stage career was something buried forty years in the past. Long, long ago the brilliant social success she scored had made the fashionable world forgive and forget any resentment it might have felt over the fact that her cheeks once had been soiled with the grease paint of the make-up box.

Last, but looming largest of all in the list of probable objections to their father's surprising marriage, was the effect it would have on the pocketbooks of the original Gould children. There are seven of them, and the addition of four new members to the family means more than a 50 per cent reduction in what each of the seven will receive when Mr. Gould dies, provided that he wants the second wife and her children to share on equal terms with the rest.

Supposing that Mr. Gould dies, leaving a fortune of \$70,000,000. If this were divided equally among the seven children, it would mean \$10,000,000 for each of them. But with four new heirs added to the family the seven original Gould children would receive only a little more than \$6,000,000 each.

A prospective loss of nearly \$4,000,000

—nothing to be sneezed at in these high-cost-of-living and heavy taxation days! One could easily forgive the Gould children for being considerably peeved over the heavy financial loss which their father's second marriage will bring. It would not have been so bad if there were only the step-mother to be considered, but the three children she brings make the thing a real calamity.

Of course, the seven Gould brothers and sisters receive a little compensation through the fact that their mother, evidently foreseeing the probability of her husband's marrying again, provided in her will that in this event her personal fortune of about \$2,000,000 should revert to her children. But this, as a very little arithmetic will show, does not begin to make up for all the millions they will lose through having to share the fortune Mr. Gould will leave with the former Guinevere Sinclair and her three children.

To everybody's surprise, however, the

children of the first Mrs. Gould have shown none of the disappointment that was expected. If they harbor any regrets that their father has married a musical comedy beauty with three children, if their feelings received a sad wrench at the quickness with which this romance followed their mother's death, they are very successful in hiding the fact.

Whatever skeleton there may be in the Gould family closet has been pushed into the darkest recesses, and to the world the seven children are showing only the greatest of delight over daddy's marriage.

And the one of them to lead all the rest in forgiving the seeming lack of respect shown their mother's memory and the certain loss of so many millions was the very last anybody would have expected to see waving the olive branch

make the honeymoon a real family party.

It is believed the example of filial devotion set by Edith had a good deal to do with swinging her brothers and sisters into line and making them also ready to forgive papa's precipitate marriage and its serious financial consequences.

Outside the pages of the novels you will seldom find a more remarkable case of coals of fire heaped on a father's head by one of his children than that furnished by the attitude taken by the former Edith Gould. She is repaying with good all the pinchpenny hardships which her father meted out to her as punishment for her runaway marriage.

Carroll Wainwright is a struggling young artist. When he fell in love with Edith Gould the parents of both were insistent on their waiting until they were several years older before marrying. But two years ago, when he went to the Gould estate to bid Edith goodbye before going to Long Island for the summer, while she went to the Adirondacks, the lovers decided they could not bear to be separated—not even for three months.

Young Wainwright had only \$10 in his pocket, but Edith managed to scrape together enough ready cash to finance a runaway marriage.

George J. Gould pretended to take a very complacent view of the matter, but in reality he was sorely disappointed that his daughter had been unwilling to hold her heart in check as he had urged her to. Edith was a favorite child and he had set great store on seeing her marry as conventionally and as brilliantly as her sisters, Lady Decies and Mrs. Anthony J. Drexel. The runaway marriages which two of his sons had made were quite enough, he thought, even for his large family.

He decided that his daughter should be punished for her disobedience and at

the same time taught that life, even a society heiress, is not all kisses. The way he chose to do this by cutting down the girl's allowance to a ridiculously small figure.

As a result Edith found on her own from the Maryland village where she had been married that the best of her husband could afford was a walk-up apartment in New York's Greenwich Village. There for a time they led a drab hand-to-mouth existence that was in odd contrast to the spoon luxury to which the young couple always had been accustomed.

It was several long, dreary years before Wainwright raised funds enough to permit of a more comfortable and tented home. A little later Mr. Gould, yielding to the pleas of his wife, and once more loosened up his strings for Edith.

And now Edith refuses to take the revenge she might have by running her father's headlong marriage as hers. Coals of fire she heaped on her head—yes, red hot ones, and she has them!

Even Lady Decies, who seemed more cause than any of the children for regretting her father's marriage, is following Edith's example, making a brave show of being pleased with it.

The former Vivien Gould, who felt that her progress in English is considerably handicapped through her husband, Lord Decies's, having a ter-in-law, Kitty Gordon, the stage and screen star. It may have been something of a shock to her to learn that her new step-mother is a former musical comedy actress.

Everybody is speculating as to Mr. Gould and his bride will be by their neighbors in the aristocratic section of Scotland where they leased a historic old castle. The try gentry are famous sticklers for proprieties and there are many predict much disapproving lifting of brows when they learn some of the tails of the American millionaire's romance and the astonishing manner with which it followed his first death.

The castle the Goulds have known as Castle Grant. It is an ancient seat of the Earls of Seaforth famous for the deer and growing that abounds in the vicinity.

The house dates back to the 15th century and is situated in one of the most beautiful parts of the country. Its private picture collection is the most notable in Scotland, including masterpieces by Titian, Vermeer, Rubens and others. One of the relics is the skull of a warrior killed by one of the early ancestors of the house of Grant.

There are many indications that America has seen the last, except occasional brief visit, of Mr. Gould's bride. Both of them seem to prefer life on the other side of the Atlantic to the life they have provided their neighbors don't cold a shoulder on them.

